different PF accounts of an employee are consolidated at the time of retirement in case of an employee serving in different units of the same company all located in Delhi;

(b) what action is proposed against the responsible PF officials in case of their failure to consolidate such accounts of an employee;

(c) whether the PF office can be taken to consumer forum in case of such negligence; and

(d) if not, what redressal machinery exists in case of harassment of an employee in getting his PF dues?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) Under the EPF Scheme, 1952 each establishment coverable under the Scheme is required to be allotted in individual Provident Fund Code by the Employees Provident Fund authorities. After allotment of Provident Fund Code individual Provident Fund Accounts are earmarked for members by the employer. Therefore, the question of there being different provident fund accounts of an employee in different units of the same company at the same station should not normally arise. However, provident fund transfer applications/claims are scrutinised and consolidated by the Employees Provident Fund Department. In the case of any negligence in duty the employees are liable for disciplinary action.

(c) The National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, New Delhi has upheld that the services rendered by the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) come under the purview of the Consumer Protection Act. However, operation of this order has been stayed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court and the appeal is still pending.

(d) A Grievance Redressal Machinery has been set up in all the Regional/Sub-Regional Offices of the EPFO. The Regional Provident Fund Commissioner Incharge of the regions and Officer-in-Charge of Sub-Regional/Sub-Account offices are available in person without any appointment to the members of the Fund for redressal of their grievances on all working days. In addition, Public Grievances are also heard and redressed through Lok Adalats being conducted in the Regional and Sub-Regional PF Offices.

खतरनाक उद्योगों में नियोजित महिला श्रमिक

86. श्री नरेश यादव: क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) देश में अद्यतन स्थिति के अनुसार महिला श्रमिकों की राज्यवार कुल संख्या कितनी है;

(ख) इनमें से कितनी महिला श्रमिक खतरनाक उद्योगों में कार्यरत हैं;

(ग) क्या सरकार को यह जानकारी है कि खतरनाक उद्योगों में कार्यरत होने के परिणामस्वरूप इन महिला श्रमिकों की प्रजनन क्षमता धीरे-धीरे कम हो रही है; और

(घ) खतरनाक उद्योगों में महिला श्रमिकों के नियोजन पर प्रतिबन्ध लगाने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं/प्रस्तावित हैं?

श्रम मंत्री (डा॰ सत्यनारायण जटिया): (क) और (ख) 1991 की जनगणना के अनुसार देश में कुल महिला श्रम बल, महिला श्रमिकों सहित 8,97,67,563 है। इन कामगारों की राज्यवार संख्या विवरण में दी गई है। (नीचे देखिए)

(ग) और (घ) विभिन्न कानूनों में विशेष संरक्षात्मक उपबंध हैं जो जोखिमकारी उद्योगों/क्षेत्रों में महिला कामगारों की कामकाजी परिस्थितियों को प्रतिषिद्ध/विनियमित करते हैं। इनमें कारखाना अधिनियम, 1948 और उसके अंतर्गत बनाये गये मॉडल नियम शामिल हैं जो जोखिमकारी प्रक्रियाओं/संचालनों में महिला कर्मकारों के नियोजन को प्रतिषिद्ध करते हैं और खान अधिनियम, 1952 जो भूमि के नीचे महिला कामगारों का नियोजन प्रतिषिद्ध करता है, शामिल हैं। यह निर्धारित करने के लिए कोई विशेष अध्ययन नहीं करवाया गया है कि क्या जोखिमकारी उद्योगों में नियोजित किए जाने के परिणामस्वरूप महिला कर्मकारों की प्रजनन शक्ति में कमी आ रही है।

विवरण

महिला कामगारों की राज्य-वार संख्या (1991 की जनगणना)

क्रम संख्या	राज्य/संघ राज्यक्षेत्र	कर्मकारों की संख्या
	भारत	89,767,563
1.	आन्ध्र प्रदेश	11,252,643
2.	अरुणाचल प्रदेश	149,789
3.	असम	2,324,535
4.	बिहार	6,116,974

5.	गोवा	117,977
6.	गुजरात	5,180,886
7.	हरियाणा	825,295
8.	हिमाचल प्रदेश	888,985
9.	कर्नाटक	6,472,816
10.	केरल	2,347,268
11.	मध्य प्रदेश	10,430,890
12.	महाराष्ट्र	12,617,454
13.	मणिपुर	350,134
14.	मेघालय	302,853
15.	मिजोरम	143,964
16.	नागालैंड	215,722
17.	उड़ीसा	3,241,991
18.	पंजाब	418,646
19.	राजस्थान	5,744,129
20.	सिक्किम	57,790
21.	तमिलनाडु	8,236,872
22.	त्रिपुरा	184,333
23.	उत्तर प्रदेश	8,019,310
24.	पश्चिम बंगाल	3,662,855
25.	अंडमान एवं निकोबार द्वीपसमूह	16,584
26.	चंडीगढ़	29,443
27.	दादरा व नागर हवेली	32,944
28.	दमन व दीव	11,584
29.	दिल्ली	314,076
30.	लक्षद्वीप	1,906
31.	पांडिचेरी	60,911

टिप्पणी: 1991 में जम्मू व कश्मीर में जनगणना नहीं करवायी गयी।

Elimination of Child Labour

87. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that various United Nations agencies have united to help Government and voluntary organisations to eliminate child labour in the country;

(b) if so, what are the salient points of these schemes and do we have necessary infrastructure to implement these; and

(c) what is the time-frame when concrete results will emerge from such UN-aided efforts?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Yes, Sir. Sexteen UN agencies have jointly subscribed to a common UN position on child labour in India.

(b) The salient outlines of sectoral strategies include:

(i) Education as the principal means for preventing and eliminating child labour; (ii) a programme on education for children with special needs such as child workers, bonded child workders, children from the underprivileged community etc.; (iii) Training and sensitisation of teachers to improve the quality of teaching so as to attract and retain children in schools; (iv) working with the Government in areas such as legal enforcement, policy support and facilitating coordination and convergence across Government ministries; (v) support to NGOs, Trade Unions and Employers Organisations and the society at various levels in addressing the problems of child labour and (vi) Immediate priority to eliminate child labour in its most exploitative and abusive forms which violate basic human rights, human dignity and moral valucs.

(c) The position paper does not prescribe any time frame.

Social Welfare Assistance to Agricultural Workers

88. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are providing some social welfare assistance to workers;

(b) if so, the details of social welfare assistance extended to the agricultural workers;

(c) whether Government have enacted any legislation to ensure the welfare of the agricultural workers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is annexed. (*See* below)